11. Representative of Director General of Supplies and Disposals, New Delhi.
12. Director, Fruits and Vegetable Preservation, New Delhi.
13. Quality Marking Centre, Directorate of Industries, Govt. of U.P.
14. Quality Marking Centre, Directorate of Industries, Govt. of Punjab.
15. Rail India Technical and Economic Services Ltd., New Delhi (Ministry of Railways), New Delhi.
16. Chairman, Agricultural Products Export Development Authority, New Delhi.
17. Chairman, Spices Board, Cochin
18. President, Seafood Exporters' Association, Cochin.
19. Chairman, Council for Leather Exports, Madras.

(c) The functions of the EIC as envisaged in the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963 is to advise the Central Govt. regarding measures for the enforcement of quality control and inspection in relation to commodities intended for export and to perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by or under the Act.

During the last 3 years, the main activities of the EIC relating to export efforts were on converage of commodities under the aegis of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963; de-notification of commodities from the purview of compulsory preshipment inspection; review of quality standards for exports; simplification and streamlining of compulsory pre-shipment procedures providing extension services through the Export Inspection Agencies (EIAs) to the manufacturers and exporters for making them quality consious by installing quality control drills and upgrading the quality of their products intended for export.

**Low exports to USA**

1489. SHRI PASUMPON THA KIRUTTINAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian exports to the USA are on the decline;

(b) if so, to what extent both quantitatively and in terms of value and what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the manner in which Government propose to tackle the problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMERS AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Export performance of Agricultural Products**

1490. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : SHRI IQBAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what has been the performance of India's agricultural exports during 1992-93;

(b) what are the comparative figures for the year 1991-92;

(c) whether there is a proposal to set up Export Oriented Units in the agricultural sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) Exports of agricultural commodities (excluding cotton) during 1991-92 and 1992-93 have been provisionally estimated at US dollar 1882

million and US dollar 1988 million respectively.

(c) and (d) In the Export and Import Policy 1992-97, as amended upto 31st March, 1993 benefits available to Export-Oriented Units have been extended to units engaged in agriculture, floriculture, horticulture, etc. The details of the scheme of Export Oriented Units are contained in Chapter IX of the Export and Import Policy 1992-97.

**Impact of Budget on prices of Tea and Coffee**

1491. SHRI IQBAL SINGH :
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of tea and coffee have gone up after the presentation of 1993-94 Budget; and

(b) what is the variation in retail prices of tea and coffee after presentation of the budget vis-a-vis before the Budget ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Tea : The average prices of all teas at Indian auctions during pre-Budget period i.e. February, 1993 was Rs. 54.99 per kg., which declined to Rs. 48.43 per kg. in March, 1993.

Coffee : Prices of coffee in the internal market are decided by the availability of coffee. Following the allotment to the growers of an Internal Sale Quota to the extent of 30 per cent of the current year's production, the release of the coffee by the Coffee Board was tapered down from January, 1993 onwards and was completely stopped w.e.f. the auction conducted in March, 1993. The market price of coffee will depend upon, among other things, the price at which coffees are sold|disposed off by the growers directly. In the Budget, the Central Excise Duty on coffee which was being levied at the rate of Rs. 500 per tonne, has been abolished. However, the Central Excise Duty constituted a small portion of the retail price. There are other duties on coffee like Purchase Tax|Sales Tax, the incidence of which is much higher.

(b) Tea : As a consequence of the announcement of abolition of Excise Duties on tea during the presentation of the 1993-94 Budget, some packet tea manufacturers have reduced the end-consumer prices of their popular brand of packs. The details in respect of four major packet tea manufacturers are as follows :—

(Prices Rs. Kg.)

| Name of Brand | End consumer prices with excise duty-pre-budget | End-consumer prices after abolition of excise duty-post Budget period |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| BROOKE BOND : | | |
| Taj 250 gms. . . . . | 102.00 | 100.80 |
| BB Special 250 gms. . . . . | 97.00 | 95.80 |
| RED 250 gms. . . . . | 87.00 | 85.80 |
| 3 Roses 250 gms. . . . . | 106.00 | 104.80 |
| LIPTON (I) LTD. | | |
| Yellow Label 500 gms. . . . . | 86.00 | 84.90 |